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BTSs, and a mobile switching center (MSC) for connecting said BSC with one BTS to another BTS or another network, wherein said BTS provides the home zone service and said MS is further registered to be used in the home zone service of a fixed network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) causing said MS to connect a communication channel with said BSC via said another BTS in response to either one of an outgoing call and an incoming call;

(b) causing said BSC to store a home zone list and a subscriber service class information of said MS received from said MSC; and,

(c) causing said BSC to selectively perform the hand-off requested by said MS according to the home zone list and the subscriber service class information.

REMARKS

Please find enclosed for the Examiner's approval, a proposed drawing correction with all changes made in red ink. This included inserting a "prior art" label into Figure 1, as required by the Examiner.

Further, Claims 3 and 4 were amended to overcome the corresponding objection, as required by the Examiner.

Claims 1 and 9-16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Dufour. Claims 2-8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dufour in view Kazmi.

In response to the above rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by Dufour alone or in combination with Kazmi. In order to clarify these distinctions, the subject matter of Claim 1 has been

amended to clarify the subject matter of the present invention.

In view of this amendment, Claim 1 now recites steps necessary to perform "a hand-off of an MS (Mobile Station) for home zone service in a mobile network, wherein the MS is further registered to be used in the home zone service of a fixed network".

Claim 11 has been amended to recite the similar feature. It is respectfully submitted that the present invention differ from the cited reference as the mobile station performs a hand-off between a fixed network and the mobile network, as recited in claim 1. In particular, the present invention provides a hand-off in case where the hand-off is not provided to a mobile station, which is registered to both the fixed and the mobile network. In contrast, both Dufour and Kazmi relate to a handoff between a subscription area and other non-subscription areas in a single network, i.e., a mobile network.

Based on the above disclosure, it is evident that both Dufour and Kazmi teach away from the presently recited "controlling a hand-off of an MS (Mobile Station) for home zone service in a mobile network, wherein said MS is registered to be used in the home zone service of a fixed network and the mobile network". Claim 11, as amended, recites similar feature. Therefore, unless a reference is cited to show that this feature is obvious, it is respectfully submitted that this feature is distinguishable over Dufour in view of Kazmi.

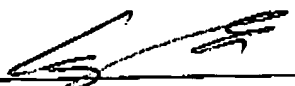
In view of the preceding remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the invention of Claims 1 and 3-16 is neither anticipated nor made obvious by Dufour alone or in combination with Kazmi. If any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorney in order that any outstanding issues may be resolved. If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

CHA & REITER

By:


Steve S. Cha
Registration No. 44,069
Attorney for Applicants

Mail all correspondence to:
Steve S. Cha, Reg. No.: 44,069
CHA & REITER
411 Hackensack Ave, 9th Floor
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
Tel: (201)518-5518
Fax: (201)518-5519

APPENDIX

1. (AMENDED) A method for controlling a hand-off of an MS (Mobile Station) for home zone service in a mobile [telecommunications system] network, wherein said MS is further registered to be used in the home zone service of a fixed network, comprising the steps of:

(a) establishing a call connection between said MS and a BTS (Base Transceiver Station) providing the home zone service;

(b) requesting a BSC (Base Station Controller) to make the hand-off to a hand-off targeted BTS via said BTS;

(c) [causing said BSC to determine] determining whether said hand-off targeted BTS belongs to the home zone service and whether said MS is registered to be used only in the home zone service;

(d) performing the hand-off of said MS to said hand-off targeted BTS if said hand-off targeted BTS belongs to the home zone service;

[(e) determining whether said MS is registered to be used only in the home zone service if said hand-off targeted BTS does not belong to the home zone service;]

[(f)] (e) dropping said call connection if said hand-off targeted BTS does not belong to the home zone service and if said MS is registered to be used only in the home zone service; and,

[(g)] (f) performing the hand-off of said MS to said hand-off targeted BTS if said hand-off targeted BTS does not belong to the home zone service and said MS is registered to be used both in the home zone service and a non-home zone service.

2. (AMENDED) The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the step (a) of establishing said call connection further includes the steps of:

[(b)] (g) causing said BSC to request the home zone information of said MS from a MSC (Mobile Switching Center) in response to a request to establish said call connection between said MS and said BTS;

[(i)] (h) causing said MSC to send the home zone information to said BSC;
and,

[(j)] (i) storing the home zone information in said BSC.

3. (AMENDED) The method as defined in Claim 2, wherein the home zone information includes a home zone list having a plurality of BTSs providing the home zone service to said MS and a subscriber class information specifying whether said MS is registered to be used in the non-home zone service.

4. (AMENDED) The method as defined in Claim 2, wherein the step [(i)] (h) of sending the home zone information from said MSC to said BSC is achieved through a call proceeding message.

8. (AMENDED) The method as defined in Claim 3, wherein the step [(e)](c) of determining whether said MS is registered to be used only in the home zone service is determined based on the subscriber class information of said MS.

9. (AMENDED) The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the step [(f)] (e) of dropping said call connection further includes the steps of sending a BTS acknowledging signal to said MS, sending a warning message to said MS, and causing said MS to output said warning message to inform the subscriber of said MS.

11. (AMENDED) A method for controlling a hand-off of a mobile station (MS) for home zone service in a mobile telecommunications system including a plurality of base transceiver stations (BTSs), a base station controller (BSC) for controlling said BTSs, and a mobile switching center (MSC) for connecting said BSC with one BTS to another BTS or another network, wherein said BTS provides the home zone service and said MS is further registered to be used in the home zone service of a fixed network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) causing said MS to connect a communication channel with said BSC via said another BTS in response to either one of an outgoing call and an incoming call;

(b) causing said BSC to store a home zone list and a subscriber service class information of said MS received from said MSC; and,

(c) causing said BSC to selectively perform the hand-off requested by said MS according to the home zone list and the subscriber service class information.